

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the following paragraphs of the specification as issued (US5,917,679) as follows:

1. The seventh complete paragraph in column 4:

FIGS. [6(a) and 6(b)] 6A and 6B are plan views illustrating alternative cross rail configurations of the negative pressure slider for a hard disk drive according to the present invention;

2. The fourth paragraph in column 5:

Trailing ABS 110c and 110d are provided at the rear surface portion of the slider body 100 adjacent a rear edge 123 thereof. These trailing ABS platforms 110c and 110d are symmetrically disposed on opposite sides of a central longitudinal axis of the slider body 100 and are aligned with one another in lateral direction of the slider body 100, and provide a positive lifting force at an air outlet between the slider body 100 and the disc surface (not shown). In operation, the front and rear ABS platforms 110a, 110b, 110c and 110d generate sufficient positive pressure to support the slider body 100 in a suspended state above a rotating disk of a hard disk drive. The U-shaped air bearing platform circumscribes a majority of negative pressure cavity 150 that is formed on principal surface 111. At least one of the rear ABS platforms 110c, 110d includes a sidewall 190 that is contiguous with side edge 192 of slider body 100 extending between lead edge 121 and rear 123, and generally obliquely to principal

surface 111 as well as the major surfaces shown for the rear ABS platforms 110c, 110d. The trailing, terminal sidewall 192 of at least one of the rear ABS platforms 110c, 110d is angularly inset from its junction with sidewall 190 and side edge 192.

3. The fourth complete paragraph in column 6:

As shown in [FIG. 6] FIGS. 6A and 6B, the cross rail 130 may be respectively smoothly configured without inner or outer corners, or it instead may be formed by a series of connected straight sidewall segments, or a combination thereof. In any case, a substantially rounded negative pressure region is formed in proximity to the geometrical center of the slider body by negative pressure cavity 150.